

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 18, 21, and 22, without prejudice.
This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings
of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 - 12 (canceled)

13. (currently amended): A mouse ~~which is derived from a~~
~~mouse strain homozygous for the genes causing the natural onset~~
~~of rheumatoid arthritis or a mouse strain that exhibits a~~
~~phenotype comprising immunopathological characteristics~~
~~indicative of autoimmune arthritis obtained from, wherein an~~
~~embryo of the mouse strain is deposited as accession no. FERM~~
BP-7790 with the International Patent Organism Depository.

14 - 22 (canceled)